

NOTICES TO BE MOVED IN GRAND LODGE 2025

NOTICES OF MOTION

Following each individual Notice of Motion, comments have been included to convey the views on the various motions that have been proposed to assist Lodges in considering how their representative should vote.

6A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMITS Rev1

The Chair of the Board of Directors, VW Bro Warwick Bell has moved the following Remits 1 to 10 and RW Bro Neville Patrick, Director and Chair of Grand Lodge Trustees has seconded.

REMIT 1	DEFINITIONS OF TERMS – EXECUTIVE OFFICES
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 2k. be amended from:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">k. “The Executive Officers” are the Grand Registrar, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Almoner and the Grand Superintendent of Works.</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>k. ‘The Executive Officers’ are the Grand Registrar, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Almoner,-the Grand Superintendent of Works, the Grand Superintendent of Ceremonies and the Grand Superintendent of Research & Education’.</i></p>
Rationale	<p>This regularises the intended role of the Grand Superintendent of Ceremonies and the Grand Superintendent of Research & Education alongside the other Executive Officers and aligns Book of Constitution requirements pertaining to Executives Officers to them.</p>

REMIT 2	DIVISIONS
	<p>i. That the change to Rule 7b. Masonic Division approved at the 2024 Annual Communication, which established two Divisions be deferred until immediately before the 2028 Communication.</p> <p>and ii. That the Book of Constitution Rule 138 c. be amended from:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c. Transitional Arrangement</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">i. For the period from the Communication in 2025 to the Communication in 2028, the roles of the Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden shall remain similar to that preceding this period and the two</p>

	<p>Divisions shall be under control of a Divisional Grand Master, both of whom will be members of the Change Management Team.</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p>c. Transitional Arrangement</p> <p><i>i. For the period from the Communication in 2025 to the Communication in 2028, the roles of the Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden shall remain similar to that preceding this period and <u>the three Divisions</u> shall be under control of a Divisional Grand Master, all of whom will be members of the Change Management Team.</i></p>
Rationale	<p>The period between the 2025 to 2028 Communications has been seen as a transitional period for the organisation's restructure. The Board of Directors, acting on recommendation of the Operational Working Group and the Senior Leadership Team has proceeded on the basis of maintaining three Divisions for the next three years. This remit formalises that decision.</p>

REMIT 3	CAPITATION – RULE 101 e.
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 101.e. be changed from:</p> <p>e. If in any case the Board of Directors seeks to set a fee for a financial year which may exceed the fee calculated as per paragraph d. above, that fee shall be determined at Divisional Conferences for that financial year.</p> <p>To read:</p> <p><i>e. If in any case the Board of Directors seeks to set a fee for a financial year which may exceed the fee calculated as per paragraph d. above, that fee shall be determined either:</i></p> <p><i>i. by postal ballot;</i></p> <p><i>ii. at Communication or Annual Communication;</i></p> <p><i>to take effect for the next financial year.</i></p>
Rationale	<p>At the last Annual Communication, the members expressed a desire to retain the ability to vote on capitation fee increases greater than the annual Consumer Price Index as determined by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (refer BoC 101.d).</p> <p>The proposed change is for practical reasons. It is easier to have one vote at the Communication or at an Annual Communication rather than at several Divisional Conferences.</p>

REMIT 4	OFFICES TO BE FILLED BY THE GRAND MASTER
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 125d. be amended from:-</p> <p>d. The following Officers shall be appointed by each District Grand Master elect /Grand Superintendent of Region elect subject to the approval of the appointment by their Divisional Grand Master: The District Grand Director of Ceremonies / Grand Director of Ceremonies (of Region), The Grand Stewards</p>

	<p>To read:-</p> <p><i>d. The following Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master in consultation with each Grand Superintendent of Region elect and their Divisional Grand Master: The District Grand Director of Ceremonies / Grand Director of Ceremonies (of Region), The Grand Stewards.</i></p> <p>And that the Book of Constitution Rule 146. e. be amended from:-</p> <p><i>e. The District Grand Master elects' /Grand Superintendent of Region elects' appointments together with the Divisional Grand Masters approval of those appointments are to be received by the Grand Secretary no later than the 31st July.</i></p> <p>To read:-</p> <p><i>e. The Grand Superintendent of Region elects' <u>recommended</u> appointments together with the Divisional Grand Masters approval of those <u>recommendations</u> are to be received by the Grand Secretary no later than the 31st July.</i></p>
Rationale	The current Rule 125.d. is not what happens in practice with such Grand rank appointments being made by the Grand Master. This also requires a minor addition to Rule 146.e.

REMIT 5	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HONORARY PAST GRAND RANK
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 172c. be amended from:-</p> <p><i>c. When a Past Master is recommended for Honorary Past Grand Rank the rank recommended shall not be higher than Past Grand Bible Bearer unless:</i></p> <p><i>i. The Board is of the opinion that there are exceptional circumstances; and</i></p> <p><i>ii. The approval of the Grand Master is given to the recommendation.</i></p> <p>To read:-</p> <p><i>c. When a Past Master is recommended for Honorary Past Grand Rank the rank recommended shall not be higher than Past Grand Sword Bearer unless:</i></p> <p><i>i. The Board is of the opinion that there are exceptional circumstances; and</i></p> <p><i>ii. The approval of the Grand Master is given to the recommendation.</i></p>
Rationale	Grand Sword Bearer is the next Grand Rank in order of precedence.

REMIT 6	CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 221 Clause c. be amended from:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c. The Grand Secretary attends the Board ex Officio.</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c. <i>The Executive Director and Grand Secretary attend meetings of the Board and are non-voting.</i></p>
Rationale	<p>When the Governance Review recommended the revised composition of the Board in 2023, which was adopted at the 2023 Special Communication, clause C. was left as 'ex officio' with the intent that the Grand Secretary would attend meetings but be non-voting.</p> <p>The Grand Secretary's attendance 'ex officio' is in confusion with the Deputy Grand Master who by Rule 166 is also ex officio but is a voting member of the Board by virtue of being a Grand Lodge Trustee.</p> <p>This change clarifies the situation and also adjusts to note that the Executive Director should also be in attendance.</p>

REMIT 7	THE FREEMASONS CHARITY
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 228 Object and Purpose of the Fund Clause b. be amended from:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. The fund shall be devoted solely to charity within New Zealand and shall be controlled, supervised, and administered solely in accordance with the provisions contained within a Deed of Trust settled for that purpose.</p> <p>To read with the addition of further wording:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. <i>The fund shall be devoted solely to charity within New Zealand and to the charitable activities of any Lodge in Samoa holding a charter from the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. It shall be controlled, supervised, and administered solely in accordance with the provisions contained within a Deed of Trust settled for that purpose.</i></p>
Rationale	<p>GLNZ chartered Lodge Calliope No 252 in Samoa has contributed to The Freemasons Charity for many years but currently the Rule means The Freemasons Charity cannot support the lodge in its benevolent activities. The amendment rectifies that equity and brings all GLNZ lodges onto the same footing.</p>

REMIT 8	USE OF EMBLEMS IN BUSINESS
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 250 be amended from:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">No Brother shall use or suffer to be used any Masonic words, emblems or devices for the purpose of or in connection with his business, or in connection with any business over which he has, in the opinion of the authority determining the case, sufficient measure of control.</p>

	<p>To read with the addition of further wording:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. No Brother shall use or suffer to be used any Masonic words, emblems or devices for the purpose of or in connection with his business, or in connection with any business over which he has, in the opinion of the authority determining the case, sufficient measure of control, <i>with the exception of items intended to be used solely for Masonic purposes.</i> b. <i>As the Square and Compasses emblem has trademark protection, any use of that emblem by a brother, Lodge or Masonic Entity for commercial purposes must have the prior approval and authority of the Board of Directors.</i>
Rationale	The Square and Compasses are regularly used on such items as name badges which are purchased through Freemasons businesses. This regularises those situations and permits uses of Masonic words, emblems or devices in such and similar situations.

REMIT 9	SPECIAL PURPOSE LODGES & INITIATION OF CANDIDATES
	<p>That in recognition of the recent constitution of two new 'Special Purpose' lodges, that the Book of Constitution Rule requiring initiation in a candidates proposed lodge be relaxed, by adding a new Rule 27A to the Book of Constitution as follows:</p> <p>27A Special Purpose Lodges</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Special Purpose Lodge means:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>a Lodge holding a charter from the Grand Lodge of New Zealand;</i> ii. <i>formed for a purpose or purposes other than initiating, passing and raising candidates;</i> iii. <i>where a Brother cannot be eligible to hold the Office of Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden in the Lodge unless they have held that Office or higher in a Craft Lodge for a period of one year as of the date of the Installation of the Lodge;</i> iv. <i>meeting on less than six occasions per calendar year'.</i> b. <i>Notwithstanding Rule 57a, a candidate balloted for and elected a member of a Special Purpose Lodge may be initiated in a Lodge nominated in the bylaws of a Special Purpose Lodge with the dispensation of the Grand Superintendent of Region.</i> c. <i>The Grand Superintendent of Region shall have the authority to authorise the initiation of a candidate of a Special Purpose Lodge in another Lodge.</i> d. <i>Notwithstanding Rules 56, 65 and 66, a Special Purpose Lodge may, where its bylaws allow, conduct a ballot for a joining member by a postal or electronic ballot which conveys information in compliance with Rule 65 clauses b i. to iii. A contrary vote shall be deemed to be a black ball in accordance with Rule 56.</i>
Rationale	In 2024 the Board of Directors agreed to the proposal to trial a University Lodge.

	<p>The Lodge is intended to meet twice in each main University trimester plus an installation meeting in February – five occasions per year. The new Lodge was constituted on 16th August.</p> <p>As part of the Board decision Collected Ruling 5 was amended to enable an exception to the ruling and that University Lodge candidates could be initiated in partner lodges. However, the matter of initiation is also covered in the Rules as well as Collected Rulings. The exception arose that the Lodge is intended to meet less often and undertaking ceremonial work will distract from the intent.</p> <p>Looking at the wider and important issue of ever declining membership, there is an imperative to consider new initiatives that will / may assist in reversing this, both recruitment and retention. In short, we cannot keep doing the same.</p> <p>The University Lodge of Wellington and The Cornerstone Lodge are two examples of such new initiatives. These ‘special purpose’ lodges may be the forerunner of others.</p> <p>Requiring the initiation to be subject to dispensation is a check to ensure that this change in policy has a check on it.</p> <p>The Cornerstone Lodge brethren have requested they be able to ballot for joining members between meetings otherwise given they meet twice a year it will 12 months to be able to join. Hence then addition of additional clause d.</p>
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REMIT 10	AWARDS RECOGNISING SERVICE and MERIT
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 173 The Grand Master’s Order of Service to Masonry be amended by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. renaming: 173. Awards Recognising Service and Merit. ii. the existing wording to be named: a. The Grand Master’s Order of Service to Masonry and clauses a. to e. be renumbered i. to v.. iii. existing clause a. to be amended by replacing ‘special service’ to read ‘long-standing, exemplary and exceptional service’ . iv. a new clause b. be added to read: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> b. Grand Master’s Order of Merit <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>The Grand Master may confer on a brother holding Grand Lodge officer rank who has rendered sustained and meritorious service to the Craft a distinction to be known as "The Grand Master's Order of Merit".</i> ii. <i>A Brother upon whom the Order is conferred shall for Masonic purposes be entitled to use the letters "O.M." after his name. These letters shall follow those applicable to any Masonic rank.</i> iii. <i>The Order is not Grand Rank and does not confer upon the holder any further precedence, or privilege afforded to Grand Officers.</i> iv. <i>Recipients shall receive a breast insignia on leather fob.</i>

	<p>v. adding new clause c. to read:</p> <p>c. Freemasons Order of Merit</p> <p>i. <i>The Grand Master may recognise non-Freemasons with "The Freemasons Order of Merit", for those who have made an outstanding and enduring contribution to the charitable mission, community engagement, or public standing of Freemasonry embodying the values of service, integrity, compassion, and fellowship.</i></p> <p>ii. <i>Recipients shall receive a breast insignia on leather fob.</i></p>
<p>Rationale</p>	<p>The Grand Lodge Roll of Honour may be conferred on any Brother who has rendered meritorious service. It is intended for brethren who do not hold a Grand rank.</p> <p>However, there are Grand Lodge officers who (after they have gained Grand Lodge rank) have continued to give meritorious service to the organisation. While there is the option of promoting them further in Grand Lodge rank, the Grand Master proposed in providing a further option, and the Board of Directors agreed to establish an award to be known as 'The Grand Master's Order of Merit'. The Board wishes to formalise this as part of Rule 173 alongside 'The Grand Master's Order of Service to Masonry' and Rule 174 The Grand Lodge Roll of Honour.</p> <p>The Grand Master's Order of Service to Masonry (OSM) is intended to be the top honour for special service. The remit makes an adjustment to define this as '<i>long-standing, exemplary and exceptional service</i>'.</p> <p>This award is open to all brethren, whether holding Grand Lodge rank or not.</p> <p>The Grand Master's Order of Merit is for those holding Grand Lodge rank only but recognises the 'sustained and meritorious' service subsequent to their gaining Grand Lodge rank.</p> <p>The Freemasons Order of Merit is designed to recognise those ladies and non-masons who work tirelessly promoting the activities and profile of Freemasonry and who reflect the qualities we aspire to deliver.</p>

6B. LODGE REMITS

The Lodge remit initially proposed has been withdrawn.